

OREGON AGRI-FACTS



RELEASED: November 29, 2004
Volume: 22-04 USPS 592-430
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Highlights

- Crop Production • Farm wages
- Dairy Products • Milk production
- Prices

Potato production down nearly 6 percent

Oregon's 2004 fall potato production is forecast at 19.8 million cwt, nearly 6 percent below the 2003 crop production. The 2004 yield is forecast at 534 cwt per acre, up 41 cwt from last year. Potato planted acreage decreased by almost 14 percent to 37,000 acres, the smallest total since 1964. Harvested acres are also forecast at 37,000 acres, a 13 percent decrease. Malheur County expects 5,200 acres harvested, with a record yield of 470 cwt per acre. For other counties in Oregon, harvested acreage is forecast at 31,800, with an expected yield of 545 cwt per acre. This yield would be up 40 cwt from last year and the largest yield since 2000.

Nationally, production of fall potatoes for 2004 is forecast at 408 million cwt, down 1 percent from last year for comparable States. South Dakota and Utah were dropped from the program starting in 2004. Area harvested, at 1.02 million acres, is virtually unchanged from the July estimate but 6 percent below last year. The average yield is forecast at 398 cwt per acre, 22 cwt above

last year. If realized, this will be a record high yield, 6 cwt above the previous record set in 2000. Western States production is forecast at 281 million cwt, up 3 percent from last year for comparable States. Acreage harvested, at 642,200 acres, decreased 3 percent from last year, but the average yield of 437 cwt per acre is up 23 cwt from 2003. Record high yields in Idaho increased production 7 percent from the previous year. Favorable growing conditions during the season contributed to the good size and quality of the tubers. Production in Washington went up 1 percent from last year. Colorado's production decreased 2 percent as more acres were abandoned due to higher disease rates and water management issues. California's production is up 10 percent from last year. Good growing conditions increased yields 85 cwt from 2003 to 510 cwt per acre, more than offsetting the decrease in acres. Growers in Montana expect a 5 percent increase in production, while Nevada's production is expected to decrease 13 percent. New Mexico production is expected to be unchanged.

Fall potatoes: Acreage, yield & production, by State and United States 2003-2004 ^{1/}

State	Area harvested		Yield per acre		Production	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	Cwt.	Cwt.	1,000 cwt.	1,000 cwt.
Oregon total	42.6	37.0	493	534	20,991	19,775
Malheur county	5.8	5.2	415	470	2,407	2,444
Other counties	36.8	31.8	505	545	18,584	17,331
California	8.3	7.6	425	510	3,528	3,876
Colorado	65.7	64.3	360	360	23,652	23,148
Idaho total	358.0	353.0	344	374	123,180	131,970
10 SW counties	25.0	25.0	465	490	11,625	12,250
Other counties	333.0	328.0	335	365	111,555	119,720
Maine	65.5	61.5	260	310	17,030	19,065
Michigan	45.5	42.0	330	310	15,015	13,020
Minnesota	58.0	43.0	385	430	22,330	18,490
New York	21.7	19.2	300	250	6,510	4,800
North Dakota	112.0	100.0	245	265	27,440	26,500
Washington	162.0	159.0	575	590	93,150	93,810
Wisconsin	80.0	74.0	410	415	32,800	30,710
Other states	71.6	63.9	349	354	24,962	22,622
Total fall potatoes	1,090.9	1,024.5	376	398	410,588	407,786

^{1/} 2004 preliminary.

**Crop Summary: Area harvested, yield and production, Oregon and United States,
2003 and forecasted, November 1, 2004**

Crop & unit	Oregon			United States		
	Harvested	Yield	Production	Harvested	Yield	Production
	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Per acre</i>	<i>1,000 units</i>	<i>1,000 acres</i>	<i>Per acre</i>	<i>1,000 units</i>
Sugarbeets, ton						
2003	9.8	30.7	301	1,348	22.7	30,583
2004	12.5	28.3	354	1,326	22.4	29,765
Dry edible beans, cwt. ^{1/}						
2003	6.0	16.5	99	1,346.9	16.7	22,515
2004	4.0	17.0	68	1,250.1	15.0	18,693
Dry edible peas, cwt. ^{2/}						
2003	6.5	20.0	130	328.5	15.8	5,202
2004	6.8	30.0	204	500.8	21.6	10,831
Austrian Winter peas, cwt.						
2003	0.6	10.0	6	15.6	11.2	174
2004	1.5	16.0	24	21.5	12.7	272
Sorghum for grain, bu.						
2003	*	*	*	7,798	52.7	411,237
2004	*	*	*	6,559	71.9	471,572
Soybeans, bu.						
2003	*	*	*	72,476	33.9	2,453,665
2004	*	*	*	73,990	42.6	3,150,441

1/ Oregon estimates carried forward from earlier forecast. 2/ Excludes both wrinkled seed peas and Austrian Winter peas. * Not estimated in Oregon.

U.S. Wage rates up 3 percent from a year ago

There were 1,173,000 hired workers on the farms and ranches in the U.S. for the week of October 10 - 16, 2004, which is down 2 percent from a year ago. Although the number of hired workers decreased, wage rates for hired workers increased by 3 percent, and the number of hours worked also increased slightly, from 40.2 percent October 2003, to 40.5 this year.

Hired workers received \$9.30 per hour during the October 2004 reference week, up 25 cents from the previous year. Field

workers were paid an average of \$8.60, up 18 cents from last year, while livestock workers earned \$8.91 per hour, up 27 cents from last year.

The Pacific region has a total of 68,000 hired workers that worked an average of 39.3 hours during the reference week. Wage rates for all hired workers in the region were \$9.81 per hour, while field workers received \$9.32 per hour, and livestock workers received \$9.23 per hour.

U.S. hired farm workers October 10-16, 2004 ^{1/}

Area	Number of hired workers	Expected to be employed		Number of hours worked	Rate for all hired workers	Type of worker		
		150 days or more	149 days or less			Field	Livestock	All workers
		<i>Dollars per hour</i>	<i>Dollars per hour</i>			<i>Dollars per hour</i>	<i>Dollars per hour</i>	<i>Dollars per hour</i>
PNW ^{2/}	2004	68	42	26	39.3	9.81	9.32	9.23
	2003	76	44	32	37.6	9.62	8.90	10.10
MTN ^{3/}	2004	29	19	10	42.3	8.84	8.25	8.62
	2003	33	22	11	45.0	8.24	7.80	8.05
California	2004	200	155	45	44.8	9.28	8.37	9.57
	2003	230	179	51	42.7	9.13	8.37	9.80
U.S.	2004	851	605	246	40.5	9.30	8.60	8.91
	2003	891	626	265	40.2	9.05	8.42	8.64

1/ Excludes agricultural service workers. 2/ Includes Oregon and Washington. 3/ Includes Idaho, Montana & Wyoming.

Milk: Cows & production, October 2003-2004

State ^{1/}	Milk cows ^{2/}		Milk production		2004 2003 Percent
	2003	2004	2003	2004	
	<i>1,000</i>	<i>1,000</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	<i>Million Pounds</i>	
Washington	244	234	461	442	-4.1
California	1,698	1,740	2,921	3,080	5.4
Idaho	412	433	750	779	3.9
20 State Total	7,743	7,769	12,083	12,245	1.3

1/ Monthly estimates for Oregon will begin in January 2005. 2/ Includes dry cows; excludes heifers not yet fresh.

Average prices received by farmers and ranchers

Commodity and unit	U.S. prices Oct. 2003	U.S. prices Oct. 15 2004 ^{1/}	Oregon		
			Oct. 2003	Sept. 2004	Oct. 15 2004 ^{1/}
Crops:					
Wheat, bu \$	3.44	3.38	3.41	*3.68	3.68
Barley, bu \$	2.74	2.36	2.48	*1.86	1.75
Oats, bu \$	1.44	1.37	2.50	--	--
Hay, Alfalfa baled, ton \$	89.10	97.80	91.00	116.00	118.00
Hay, All Baled, ton \$	83.70	89.80	90.00	111.00	114.00
Potatoes, cwt \$	5.03	4.74	4.50	*4.40	4.40
Onions, fr. cwt . . . \$	12.60	11.20	--	--	--
Sweet corn, fr. cwt \$	23.70	22.40	--	--	--
Pears, fr. ton \$	413.00	484.00	--	--	--
Apples, fr. lbs \$.279	.271	--	--	--
Strawberries, fr. lbs \$	1.000	.888	--	--	--
Livestock/Products:					
Steers/heifers cwt \$	97.80	91.10	89.00	*98.00	99.00
Slaughter cows cwt \$	44.60	50.40	46.50	*49.50	49.00
Calves, cwt \$	112.00	127.00	99.50	*112.00	116.00
Lambs, cwt \$	96.80	--	89.00	95.00	--
Sheep, cwt \$	35.00	--	32.50	35.00	--
All milk sold to plants, cwt \$	15.00	15.50	--	--	--
Fat test %	3.72	3.72	--	--	--
Eggs, doz \$.838	.503	--	--	--

^{1/} Preliminary.
* Revised entire month.

United States feed ratios

Feed ratios	Oct. 2001	Oct. 2002	Oct. 2003	Sep. 2004	Oct. 2004
Broiler feed	8.6	4.5	5.4	*6.3	7.1
Hog-corn	21.8	13.2	17.3	*24.9	27.2
Milk feed	3.55	2.46	3.23	*3.25	3.52

* Revised.

Index numbers of prices received by Oregon farmers and ranchers

Commodities	1910-14=100		1990-92=100		
	Oct. 2003	Oct. 2004	Oct. 2003	Sep. 2004	Oct. 2004
All farm products	719	746	119	124	123
All crops	695	710	124	127	126
Livestock & prod.	789	841	108	114	115

United States price ratio

Indexes	1910-14=100		1990-92=100		
	Oct. 2003	Oct. 2004	Oct. 2003	Sep. 2004	Oct. 2004
Prices rcvd	718	705	113	*115	111
Prices paid ^{1/}	1,719	1,782	129	*134	134
Ratio ^{2/}	42	40	88	86	83

^{1/} Prices Paid, Interest, Taxes & Farm Wage Rates indexes from quarterly reports.

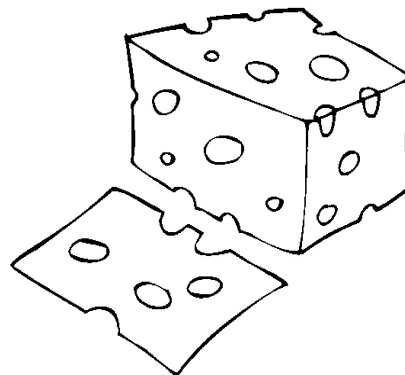
^{2/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received by Farmers to Index of Prices Paid. This ratio on 1910-14=100 Base is the parity ratio.

* Revised.

These price indices are designed to track aggregate prices farmers pay and receive over time. The commodity weighting for prices received varies monthly according to what is normally marketed for a given time of year. They can be volatile from month to month.

Dairy products: Quantities manufactured, September 2004

Product		Production	
		September 2004	Change from 2003
		1,000	Percent
Oregon			
American cheese	Lbs.	9,329	14.1
Ice cream, hard	Gal.	1,124	-7.1
United States			
Butter	Lbs.	92,200	25.8
American type cheese	Lbs.	293,729	0.5
Creamed cottage cheese	Lbs.	32,340	-2.1
Canned evaporated and			
Condensed whole milk	Lbs.	43,678	8.9
Non-fat dry milk	Lbs.	94,557	-2.3
Yogurt-plain & flavored	Lbs.	236,892	6.4
Ice cream, hard	Gal.	70,680	-3.7
Low fat ice cream, soft		25,929	29.1
Frozen yogurt, all	Gal.	5,418	-6.9



Farm production expenses: Oregon, 1999-2003

Item	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>	<i>Million dollars</i>
Intermediate farm expenses					
Feed	221.3	254.4	248.6	272.8	250.0
Livestock & poultry	19.9	28.2	32.8	23.2	25.8
Seed	107.3	113.3	135.1	134.6	150.0
Fertilizer & lime	162.6	143.8	148.8	137.1	160.0
Pesticides	129.4	119.6	125.3	111.4	130.0
Fuel & oil	86.2	99.2	91.6	88.9	100.0
Electricity	58.0	59.2	88.0	65.4	100.0
Repair & maintenance	317.4	325.6	283.7	318.2	206.9
Machine hire & custom work	98.4	75.6	74.1	63.9	125.0
Marketing, storage & transportation	195.3	232.4	260.6	235.5	225.4
Contract labor	41.5	41.6	60.6	52.6	34.9
Miscellaneous, including operator dwellings	281.2	254.5	304.5	317.7	329.9
Total intermediate farm expenses*	1,718.5	1,747.5	1,853.6	1,821.5	1,837.9
Farm production expenses					
Motor vehicle registration & licensing	19.2	16.9	19.1	14.5	8.7
Capital consumption, including operator dwellings	353.7	357.9	367.7	373.6	373.7
Taxes on farm property	90.6	89.5	89.5	76.7	99.9
Employee compensation (total hired labor)	696.5	709.8	708.8	673.3	828.2
Interest expenses including operator dwellings	200.2	214.8	194.8	185.7	189.3
Net rent to non-operator landlords	274.8	282.4	247.2	248.9	270.6
Total farm production expenses*	3,353.6	3,418.8	3,480.7	3,394.2	3,608.2

Source: USDA, Economic Research Service - Christopher McGath – 202-694-5579, cmcath@econ.ag.gov

*May not add due to rounding.

Web site: <ers.usda.gov/data/farmincome/finfidmu.htm>

AGFACS 22-04

OREGON AGRI-FACTS (ISSN# 0279-0874) is published semi monthly by the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service, 1220 S.W. 3rd, Room 1735, Portland, OR. 97204. Subscriptions are free to Oregon farmers, ranchers and data suppliers. Others may subscribe for an annual fee of \$12.00. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Portland, OR. 97204 and at additional mailing offices. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to OREGON AGRI-FACTS, Room 1735, 1220 S.W. 3rd, Portland, Oregon 97204.